Act, 2006 all institutions have to expand capacity to implement reservation for the SC(15%), the ST (7.5%) and the OBCs (27%) without reducing the number of seats available to the unreserved category over a maximum period of three years.

**Review of SSA on CAG report**

2151. SHRI DARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the backdrop of CAG report on ineffectiveness of Sarva Shiksa Abhiyan and Mid-day Meal Scheme by the Centre and State Governments, Hon'ble PM reviewed its flagship education sector programme on 22nd September, 2006;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to implement the scheme effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Programmes of Government of India were reviewed by the Prime Minister on 22.09.2006 as they are important flagship programmes of the country.

(b) and (c) Some of the key suggestions made in the meeting were to disseminate good practices across States in the Country; develop mechanisms for ranking of States/ UTs on progress achieved; and discuss in the National Development Council to develop consensus on these flagship programmes of the Government.

**Recognition of B.Ed/M. Ed courses**

2152. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure for getting the B.Ed/M.Ed courses recognized in the States;

(b) whether any No Objection Certificate is required for the concerned State for getting the recognition of B.Ed/MEd. Colleges;

(c) whether it is a fact that the NCERT is giving recognition to B.Ed college without issuance of No Objection Certificate by the State Government;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the NCERT is not recognizing the M.Ed courses for which the State Government has given the No Objection Certificate; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHAF FATMI): (a) The procedure for grant of recognition to institutions who wish to start teacher education course including B.Ed./M.Ed is laid down under the relevant provisions of NCTE Act, 1993, NCTE Rules, 1997 and NCTE Regulations issued by the NCTE from time to time. All these are notified in the Official Gazette. The latest Regulation in this regard was notified *vide* Notification No. 8 of 27.12.2005 published in Part-III Section 4 of the Official Gazette on 13.1.2006. According to this regulation an institution is required to submit its application in the prescribed format to the concerned Regional Committee of the NCTE which after being satisfied that the institution has all the necessary infrastructural/instructional facilities and fulfils all the conditions prescribed in the relevant provisions of the NCTE Act, processes it for granting recognition.

(b) and (c) The recognition for B.Ed and M.Ed. courses is granted by the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) and not National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT).

The Norms and Standards have been laid down by NCTE for grant of recognition to various Teacher Training Institutes from time to time. As per the norms formulated in 2002 *vide* Notification No. 9-18/2002/NCTE dated 13.11.2002, an application for recognition for a course or training in teacher education and/or increase in intake was to be accompanied by a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the State or UT in which the institution was located. Application without NOC/endorsement of the State/UT Govt. was not to be processed by the concerned Regional Committees of NCTE.

This requirement was relaxed for a period of three years from 5.1.2004 to 4.1.2007 in respect of B.Ed institutions already recognized by NCTE for starting Elementary Teacher Education Programme or increasing intake

in the course and any other institution for starting a course or training in Pre-school Teacher Education/Nursery Teachers Training *vide* Notification No. F 53-3/2003-NCTE(N&S) dated 1.1.2004.

These regulations have now been revised vide Notification No. 49-42/2005-NCTE(N&S) dated 27.12.2005 Gazetted on 13.1.2006 which stipulate that a written communication alongwith a copy of the application form submitted by the institution shall be sent to the State Government/UT Administration concerned. On receipt of communication, the State Govt./UT Administration shall within 60 days furnish its recommendations on the applications to the office of the Regional Committee. If no reply is received from the State Govt./UT Administration within the stipulated 60 days, it shall be presumed that State Govt./UT Administration concerned has no recommendation to make.

(d) NCTE Act provides for granting of permissions to run all teacher education courses including M.Ed. even without NOC of the State Government provided it fulfils all the norms and standards established under its Regulations

No specific instances of a Regional Committee not recognizing M.Ed. course for which NOC from the State Government has been submitted and which fulfils all other requirements of the relevant provisions of the NCTE Act, Rules and Regulations has come to notice.

(e) Question does not arise in view of 'd' above.

**Central Universities in the North-East**

2153. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have opened Central Universities in every State of the North-East, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government are contemplating to open one Central University in hill States of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?